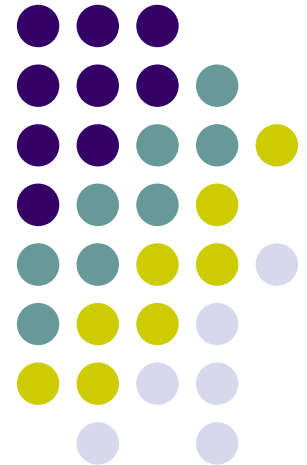


Veterinary Medicine & Surgery Informational Meeting on Newly Effective Regulations

Board of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery
and
Department of Health & Human Services
Regulation & Licensure

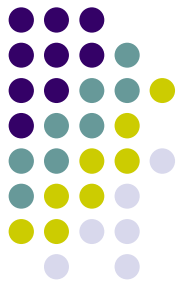


Board of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery

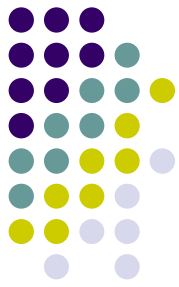


- David Ylander, D.V.M., Chairman
- Steve Wright, D.V.M., Vice-Chairman
- Gail Miller, Secretary
- Don Cain, Jr., D.V.M.

Department of Health & Human Services Regulation & Licensure Staff



- Becky Wisell, Section Administrator
- Vicki Bumgarner, Credentialing Coordinator



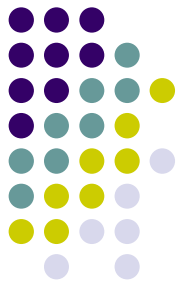
Regulations Process

- Draft regulations
- Public hearing to obtain input
- Board considers public hearing comments, makes necessary revisions and approves regulations
- Review and approval by Board of Health
- Review and approval by Attorney General
- Review and approval by Governor
- Filed by Secretary of State
- Effective 5 days after filing by the Secretary of State



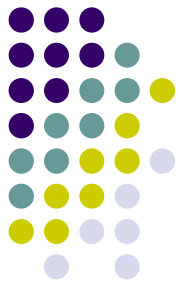
Regulations Timeline

- 2000 – Legislative change (LB 833) from certified animal technicians to licensed veterinary technicians. Board and Department to develop regulations to set standards for the levels of supervision and to determine what tasks may be performed by licensed vet techs and by unlicensed assistants.



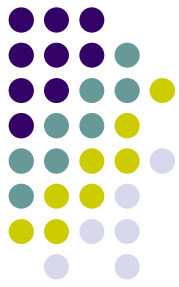
Regulations Timeline

- 2002
 - Legislative change (LB 1062) provides for licensure of foreign-trained veterinarians.
 - Legislative change (LB 1021) revises continuing competency requirements per NCR
 - Dr. Ylander reported to NVMA about legislative changes, development of regulations, and that Board would be discussing regulations for veterinary technician and unlicensed assistant duties at the June meeting.



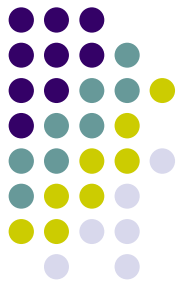
Regulations Timeline

- 2003 – Legislative change (LB 242) provided new method for establishing licensure fees and created the administrative penalty for practice prior to licensure and practice after license expiration.



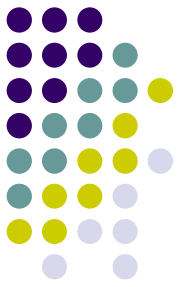
Regulations Timeline

- 2004
 - Notice of public hearing sent to all licensed veterinary technicians with renewal notices. Also sent to associations, other interested parties, and published in newspapers.
 - Public hearing held February 20, 2004.
 - Legislative change (LB 1005) provides exemption for vet tech students to practice in school and during school vacations under direct supervision.



Regulations Timeline

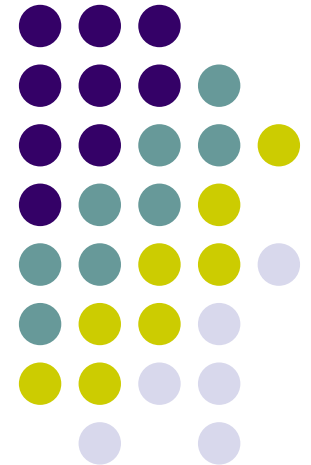
- 2004
 - Approved by Board June 16, 2004
 - Approved by Attorney General December 13, 2004
 - Approved by Governor January 10, 2005
 - Filed by Secretary of State January 10, 2005
 - Regulations effective January 15, 2005



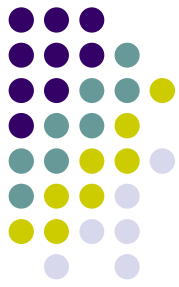
Topics:

- Delegated Health Care Tasks
- Grounds for Disciplinary Action
- Mandatory Reporting
- New Fees
- Continuing Competency
- Renewal/Administrative Penalty
- Uniform Licensing Law Rewrite

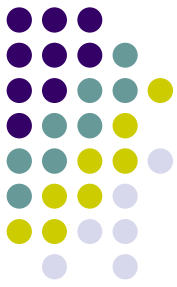
Delegated Health Care Tasks



Licensed Veterinary Technician



- A veterinary technician who is validly and currently licensed as a veterinary technician in this state. Only a licensed veterinary technician may advertise or offer his/her services in a manner calculated to lead others to believe that s/he is a veterinary technician.



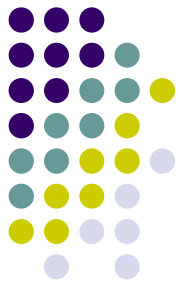
Unlicensed Assistant

- An individual who is not a veterinarian or a veterinary technician who is working in veterinary medicine.

Supervisor



- A licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician as required by statute or rule or regulation for the particular delegated task being performed by a veterinary technician or unlicensed assistant.



Levels of Supervision

- Immediate

- On the premises
- Is in direct eyesight & hearing range of the animal
- Animal has been examined by a veterinarian

- Direct

- On the premises
- Is available to the veterinary technician or unlicensed assistant
- Animal has been examined by a veterinarian

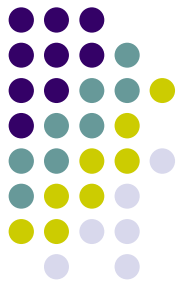
- Indirect

- Not on the premises
- Is easily accessible
- Has given written or oral instructions for treatment
- Animal has been examined by a veterinarian

Tasks for Licensed Vet Techs

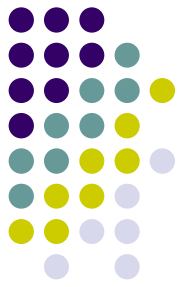


- Under Immediate Supervision
 - Dental extraction not requiring sectioning of a tooth or the resectioning of bone
 - Assist veterinarian in surgery by tissue handling and instrument handling



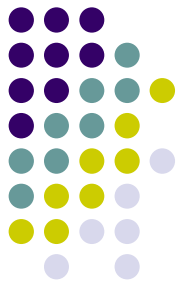
Tasks for Licensed Vet Techs

- Under Direct Supervision
 - Induction of anesthesia
 - Euthanasia
 - Blood or blood component collection, preparation and administration for blood transfusions
 - Dental procedures limited to the following:
 - a. Smoothing, filing, & polishing of teeth
 - b. Flotation or removal of calculus, soft deposits, plaque & stains
 - c. dressing of equine teeth



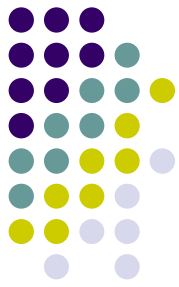
Tasks for Licensed Vet Techs

- Under Indirect Supervision
 - Perform preliminary physical examination
 - Obtain history regarding an animal patient
 - Client education
 - Administration & application of treatments, drugs, oxygen therapy, medications & immunological agents by parenteral and injectable routes (subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, & intravenous) except when in conflict with government regulations



Tasks for Licensed Vet Techs

- Under Indirect Supervision (continued)
 - Initiation of parenteral fluid administration
 - Intravenous catheterizations
 - Radiography including settings, positioning, processing & safety procedures
 - Electrocardiogram (EKG)
 - Collection of urine by expression, cystocentesis, or catheterization



Tasks for Licensed Vet Techs

- Under Indirect Supervision (continued)
 - Collection & preparation of tissues, cellular, or microbiological samples by skin scraping, impressions, or other non-surgical methods, except when in conflict with government regulations
 - Routine laboratory test procedures
 - Supervision of handling biohazardous waste
 - Application of bandages & wound mgmt
 - Patient vital sign monitoring

Tasks for Unlicensed Assistants

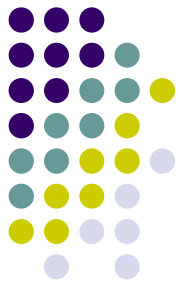


- Under Immediate Supervision
 - Assist veterinarian in surgery by tissue handling & instrument handling

Tasks for Unlicensed Assistants



- Under Direct Supervision
 - Assist with the following radiology procedures:
 - a. Patient positioning
 - b. Operation of x-ray machine after obtaining training in radiation safety as required by 180 NAC 6-010.03
 - Administer crystalloid fluid therapy through an established IV catheter
 - Collection of blood specimens
 - Patient vital sign monitoring



Tasks for Unlicensed Assistants

- Under Indirect Supervision
 - Collection of voided urine specimens
 - Collection of fecal specimens
 - Perform automated blood tests or commercial ELISA tests
 - Obtain history regarding an animal patient
 - Perform preliminary physical examination
 - Client education
 - Administration & application of treatment & drugs, medications & immunological agents by topical, oral, rectal, intramuscular & subcutaneous injectable routes, except when in conflict with government regulations

Under Conditions of Emergency



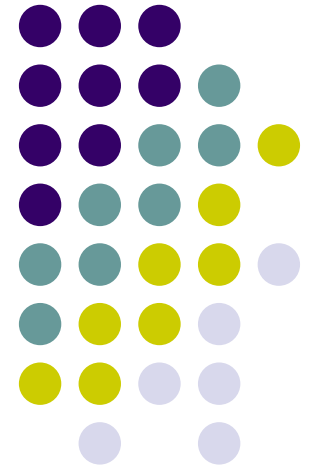
- Licensed Vet Techs or Unlicensed Assistants may render the following life-saving aid & treatment:
 1. Application of tourniquets and/or pressure bandages to control hemorrhage
 2. Administration of pharmacological agents and parenteral fluids must only be performed after direct communication with a licensed veterinarian & the vet is either present or enroute to the location of the distressed animal
 3. Resuscitative procedures
 4. Application of temporary splints or bandages to prevent further injury to bones or soft tissues
 5. Application of bandages, appropriate wound dressings & external supportive treatment in severe wound & burn cases
 6. External supportive treatment in heat prostration cases

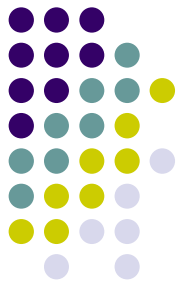
Tasks Not Permitted by Licensed Vet Techs or Unlicensed Assistants



- Make a diagnosis or prognosis
- Prescribe any treatment, drugs, medications or appliances
- Perform surgery
- Administer Rabies vaccine

Grounds for Disciplinary Action



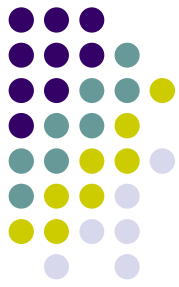


Grounds for Disciplinary Action

- Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-147
 - Uniform Licensing Law
- Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-1,163
 - Veterinary Practice Act
- Title 172 NAC 180-009
 - Veterinary Regulations
- Unprofessional Conduct
 - Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-148 and Title 172 NAC 180-011

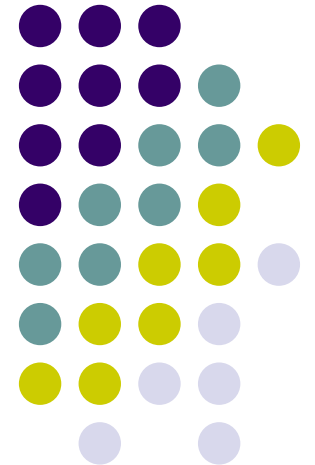
New Unprofessional Conducts

172 NAC 180-011



- 15. Failure to properly supervise licensed veterinary technicians or unlicensed assistants.
- 18. Failure to maintain treatment records for 3 years after the veterinarian's most recent contact with the client and/or patient.
- 19. Failure to comply with Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-8401 to 71-8407 regarding access to medical records.

Mandatory Reporting



Mandatory Reporting Regulations



- Title 172 NAC 5
- Effective May 8, 1995
- Duty To Report
 - Self reporting
 - Reporting Others

Self-Reporting



- Actions Affecting Privileges
- Actions Affecting Employment
 - loss of employment due to alleged incompetence, negligence, unethical or unprofessional conduct or physical, mental or chemical impairment
- Actions Based on Professional Liability Claims
 - liability claim that resulted in an adverse judgment, settlement, or award

Self-Reporting



- Actions Affecting Authorization to Practice
 - denial of licensure due to alleged incompetence, negligence, unethical or unprofessional conduct, or physical, mental or chemical impairment
 - disciplinary action against a license
 - voluntary surrender of a license
- Actions Affecting Memberships
 - loss of membership in a professional organization
- Convictions
 - misdemeanor or felony

Reporting Within Profession



- Firsthand knowledge that someone in the profession has committed acts indicative of:
 - gross incompetence
 - a pattern of negligent conduct
 - unprofessional conduct
 - practice while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or physical, mental or emotional disability
 - other violations of the laws or regs for that profession

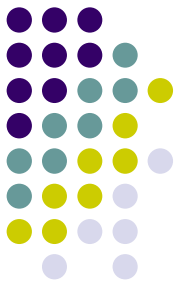
Reporting Between Professions



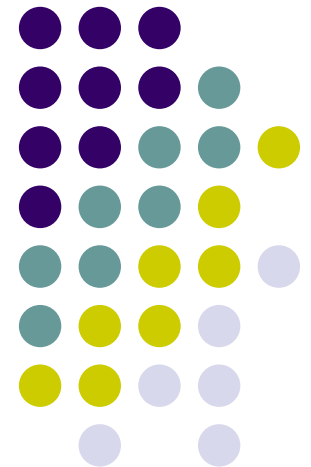
- Firsthand knowledge that someone in another health care profession:
 - has committed acts indicative of gross incompetence
 - may be practicing while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or physical, mental or emotional disability

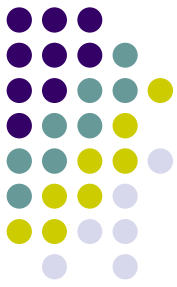
Web Site Address

- www.hhs.state.ne.us



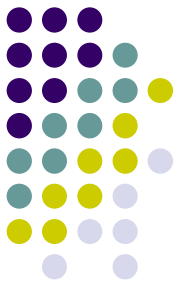
New Fees





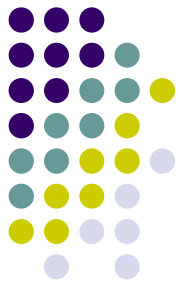
Veterinarians

- Initial Licensure Fee
 - Raised to \$125 (was \$100)
- Biennial Renewal Fee
 - Lowered to \$100 (was \$200)



Veterinary Technicians

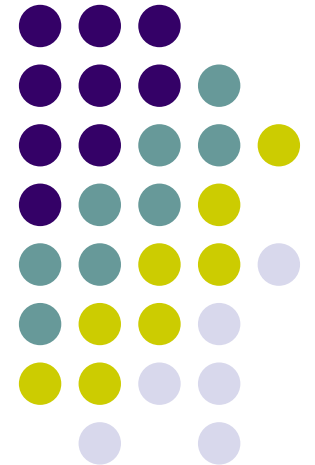
- Initial Licensure Fee
 - Raised to \$65 (was \$5)
- Biennial Renewal Fee
 - \$50 (was \$25 annually)

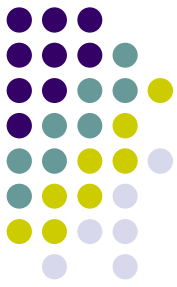


Other Fees

- Licensee Assistance Program (LAP) Fee
 - \$1 per year on all licenses issued and renewed
- Certification of Licensure
 - \$25 to certify licensure to other states
- Duplicate or Reissued License
 - \$10 for each document

Continuing Competency





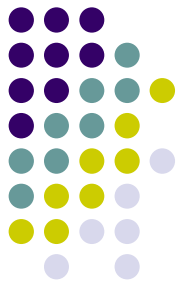
Continuing Competency

- 32 Hours for Veterinarians
- 16 Hours for Veterinary Technicians
- Due at Renewal Time - Every Two Years

We now accept:



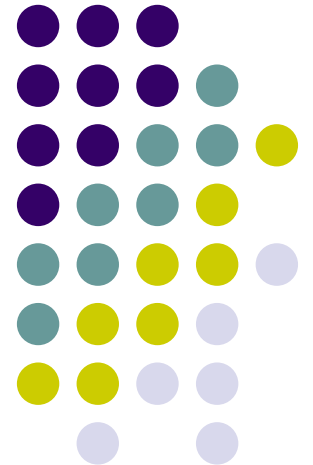
- Home Study
 - Accept up to 1/4 of total number of hours required
 - Must have a testing mechanism scored by provider
- Practice Management
 - Accept up to 1/4 of total number of hours required



RACE Approved Programs

- AAVSB Registry of Approved Continuing Education
- Programs related to veterinary medicine and surgery or veterinary technology

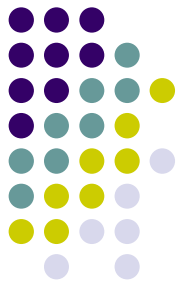
License Renewal & Administrative Penalty





License Renewal

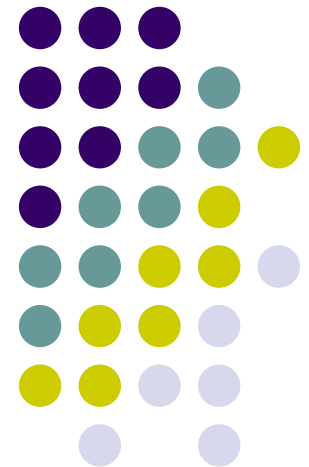
- Biennial renewal for both veterinarians and veterinary technicians
- License expiration date April 1, 2006
- Renewal notices sent at least 30 days prior to license expiration
- Notify Department of any address changes
- Will have option to renew license online

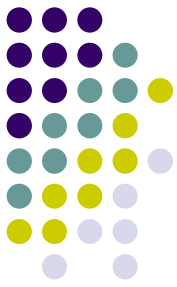


Administrative Penalty

- New law effective July 1, 2004
- Cannot practice after April 1, 2006, if license has expired and has not yet been renewed
- Penalty of \$10 per day up to a maximum of \$1,000 for practice on an expired license
- Disciplinary action could be taken in addition to the administrative penalty

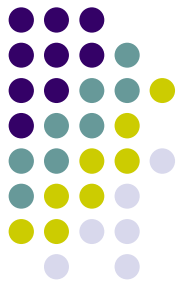
Uniform Licensing Law Rewrite





Purpose of ULL Rewrite

- Make the law more user-friendly to enhance understanding
- Uniformity in credentialing processes across the professions
- Streamline the law



Meetings to Obtain Input

- May 11 – Professional Associations
- June 10 – All Health Care Related Board Member Meeting
- Late August -- NCR Committee Meeting
- September 26 – Board of Health Meeting, North Platte (revised draft)
- Early October – Public forum, Omaha (revised draft)
- Additional meetings, as requested